

"Islington Manor"
135 Cannon Street
Charleston
Charleston County
South Carolina

HABS No. SC-278

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Eastern Office, Design and Construction
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

"ISLINGTON MANOR"

Address: 135 Cannon Street, Charleston, Charleston County,
South Carolina.

Present Owner: Hospital and Training School for Nurses.

Brief Statement
of Significance: This building, dated 1800, was formerly an elegant
mansion in Islington (now in city limits of
Charleston) but is now converted into a hospital
and training school for nurses and is in fair con-
dition.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Original and subsequent owners: Henry Ellison, original owner [Courier (Charleston), December 6, 1804]. Later owned by James McCray and John C. Cothran; conveyed 1855 to Aaron N. Cohen, trustee of Clara N. Cohen; sold 1863 to Beckman McCull, trustee of Ann Sophia McCull and children [Charleston County Mesne Conveyance, Book M-14, p. 78]. The house was bought in 1870 by C. O. Witte [Charleston County Mesne Conveyance, Book W-15, p. 45] who sold it to the Hospital and Training School for Nurses in 1879 [MCO, E-22, p. 164].
2. Date of erection: 1800 (On marble slab on facade, with "H. E.," original owner's initials).
3. Original plans, construction, etc.: When built, the house stood in the village of Islington (now within the city limits of Charleston), and was itself known as Islington [Advertiser in Courier, December 6, 1804].

- B. Historical Events Connected with the Structure: "The white doe of Islington," reputedly the ghost of a murdered girl who appears in the shape of a deer, is said to haunt the garden [News and Courier, Charleston Power and Defense Edition, December 2, 1941, p. 2-A].

Prepared by Beatrice St. J. Ravenel
Architectural Historian
Charleston, S. C.
August 1958

(Building demolished about 1959.)

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: Vestigial survival of former elegance.
2. Condition of fabric: Good.

B. Technical Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: Main portion, three floors; east portion, two floors.
2. Foundations, wall construction: Brick.
3. Openings:
 - a. Doors: Wood doors and frames.
 - b. Windows: Wood frames.
4. Roof:
 - a. Shape, covering: Hip roof; slate covering.
 - b. Cornice: Projecting brick courses.
5. Chimneys: Four brick chimneys.

C. Technical Description of Interiors:

1. Floor plans: First floor, reception room plus kitchens and offices. Second floor, two wards plus five smaller rooms. Third floor, one ward, plus three smaller rooms.
2. Stairways: Wood inside stairway. Wood stairway in enclosed entrance hall on west side from ground to second floor. Wood outside stairway (fire escape) on south side from ground to second floor.
3. Flooring: Wood.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Plaster. Ornamental plaster centerpieces and decoration over doors.
5. Doorways and doors: Wood - plain.
6. Trim: Hand-molded plaster mantels.
7. Hardware: Metal - modern.

8. Lighting: Electric.
9. Heating: Fireplaces, closed. Baseboard radiation plus duotherm stoves.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: On main artery of city. Faces north on Cannon Street.
2. Enclosures: Cement wall with iron railing on street.
3. Outbuildings: Modern, frame, two-story annex to building on southwest side.
4. Walks: Brick.
5. Landscaping: Traditional.

Prepared by Miss Emma R. Martin
August 1958